

In the Claims:

Claims 1-24 (canceled)

25. (new) A device for lifting epithelium from an eye having a cornea with an anterior surface comprising an epithelial delaminator configured to apply a mechanical force to the anterior surface to lift the epithelium in a continuous layer.

26. (new) A method for lifting epithelium from an eye having a cornea with an anterior surface comprising the steps of: contacting the anterior surface with an epithelial delaminator and applying a mechanical force to the anterior surface, wherein the force is in an amount sufficient to lift the epithelium in a continuous layer to form an epithelial flap.